

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7188
ANSWERED ON:14.05.2002
DECLINING RATIO OF WOMEN
SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI;SUNDER LAL TIWARI

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated 8.3.2002 regarding declining ratio of women;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the schemes being implemented for the welfare of girls are not being extended to the villages; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure that benefits of Balika Smridhi Yojna and other schemes being run for the welfare of girls reach at the grass root level and coordination is maintained among the scheme?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN)

(a)&(b) Yes, Sir. As per the findings of Census 2001, there has been a decline in the sex ratio in the age group 0- 6 from 945 female per 1000 male in 1991 to 927 female in 2001.

(c)&(d) The Government started a scheme of Balika Samridhi Yojana in 1997 to address the discrimination against the girl child and to check the incidence of female foeticide and female infanticide and to change the negative family and community attitude towards the girl child. The benefits of the scheme are disbursable to the girl child born in a family living below the poverty line in both rural and urban areas in all districts of the country. The scheme of Balika Samridhi Yojana is implemented through the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme infrastructure which also targets most vulnerable groups of population including children upto 6 years of age belonging to poorest of the poor families and those living in disadvantaged areas including backward rural areas, tribal areas and urban slums.